



OneOhio Region 7 Collaborative  
Mahoning and Trumbull Counties

Collaborative Meeting  
April 3, 2023  
Minutes

Present: Erin Bishop, April Caraway, Victor Daprile, Carolyn Givens, Jake Jones, Greg Leonhard, Jake Jones, Hannah Petrosky, Duane Piccirilli, Linda Spies, Eric Ungaro, and Sara Volinchak

Absent: Rev. Lewis Macklin, and Joseph Rossi

Alternates: Brenda Heidinger and Lauren Thorp

Guests: None

April Caraway, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

April Caraway called for a motion to approve the minutes from the March 6, 2023 meeting.

**Erin Bishop made a motion to approve minutes from February 6, 2023, meeting. Greg Leonhard seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

**Unfinished Business:**

Funding priorities will be ongoing discussions to determine priorities based on changing community needs.

**New Business:**

Duane Piccirilli gave an update on the One Ohio Foundation. The Foundation has received 80 applicants for the 6 openings on the Expert Panel, as well as 30 applications for the Executive Director position. It is unclear how the Executive Director advertised salary range of \$250,000 to \$300,000 will be paid as the MOU specifies only \$150,000 can be paid from the settlement funds.

April Caraway commented that the One Ohio Foundation administration will be a huge job, and will require a staff to complete the work. Her concern is that the staffing necessary to do the work, will drain funds that could be distributed to the regions.

The Foundation is still hoping that funding will be able to begin flowing in the fall for the regional projects.

There was a discussion of the Ohio Mental Health and Addiction Services Community Plan requirements for all County ADAMHS Boards. The plans for Mahoning and Trumbull Counties Boards have been submitted to OhioMHAS, but they have not been



OneOhio Region 7 Collaborative  
Mahoning and Trumbull Counties

approved at this time. Trumbull has released their report and it is posted on their website. Mahoning County is awaiting approval before distributing their plan.

April stated that housing assistance is a large concern, TCAP is out of funds for assistance to families in danger of eviction, they are now referring to the Salvation Army for rental assistance. Partners are working with the Trumbull Metropolitan Housing Authority to assist these families.

April referred committee members back to the MOU that specifies these funds must be used for expansion of programs or new innovative programs to address the opiate crisis.

Erin Bishop stated that the input from Mahoning County MHRB and Trumbull County MHRB will be helpful in determining priorities and if programs are expansion, or new. Another issue in Mahoning County is the higher rents that landlords are able to charge, because of the lack of housing stock. Currently a 2 bedroom house on the East Side of Youngstown is going for \$1,200 a month rent.

The committee discussed potential zoning challenges for Recovery Houses. Some communities/townships have attempted to or have passed zoning regulations to try and keep Recovery Housing out of the community or relegated to certain areas. Recovery Housing is protected under discrimination/fair housing rules, but it can be expensive and difficult to fight. If those attempting to develop recovery housing come to the Boards, they are advised to check zoning requirements, and work with local zoning inspectors before purchasing a property. Again, not enough housing stock was expressed as a problem.

Victor Daprile reminded the committee that the projects funded with this funding must be focused on addiction and specifically opiate addiction, as that is where the funds come from and what is specified in the MOU.

Discussion of putting an Application type section on Region 7 applications for funding including prevention, treatment, recovery supports, etc. as listed in the MOU. Committee members discussed if funding for treatment will be needed as there are other dollars for those services including Medicaid and other private health insurances. The Boards explained that funding for people without insurance (indigent) as well as payment assistance for those that have high deductible or catastrophic insurances are necessary.

It was agreed that the Mahoning and Trumbull MHR Boards would add a "One Ohio Foundation box" on their websites to the first page where all documents related to the One Ohio Foundation as well as the Region 7 work could be posted for the public to access. Townships, schools, community organizations, etc. can then link to that section of the Boards websites and the Boards would be responsible for keeping updated



information available. Once this section is developed on the websites, links can be sent out to all interested community partners.

Direct funding to the townships, cities, etc. was discussed. Included was a discussion about offering to help coordinate or assist with larger projects the local areas may want to complete. Can we bring these partners together to collaborate to allow them to do more with their smaller pots of funds?

The committee has decided to not hold a May or June 2023 meeting, and will reconvene on July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023 (moved from the first Monday due to the 7/4/23 holiday), as no action can be taken until there is more information from the OneOhio Recovery Foundation.

Committee discussed the timeline of October funding from state to regional projects that Catherine, acting ED, discussed on her visit. We are still hopeful this timeline can be possible. Status of the Court cases regarding the OneOhio Recovery Foundation being a private 501(c)3 or government was brought up, the court has not made a final decision on this lawsuit only that it could move forward. Members also expressed concerns that statewide projects by the OneOhio Recovery Foundation, would reduce the amount of regional funds and may not be as effective as tailored regional projects could be.

#### **General Discussion:**

- Linda Spies shared that the Liberty Learning Center is hosting an Art Show of the students work from 11:30-1 p.m. on Wednesday 4/5/23
- Lauren Thorp highlighted the ASAP Drug Summit on 5/26/23 to be held at Kent State Trumbull with Sam Quinones as the keynote speaker, there will also be 8 breakout sessions and people can register on Event Bright. There will be 6 hours of CEU's.
- Sara Volinchak stated she recently started a job at Midwest Recovery in Austintown and is available to assist people getting into services.

Reminder - Next Meeting will be held on July 10, 2023, at 5:00pm at Direction Home of Eastern Ohio, 1030 Meridian Road, Youngstown, OH 44509

With no further business to discuss, Chairperson Caraway called for a motion to adjourn at 5:56 pm.

**Carolyn Givens made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:47 p.m. Jake Jones seconded the motion.**



OneOhio Region 7 Collaborative  
Mahoning and Trumbull Counties

Minutes reported by:

Minutes recorded by:

Joe Rossi  
Secretary

Brenda Heidinger

DRAFT